§315.3

Substantial Interest means a direct material economic interest in the certification or non-certification of the petitioner.

TAAC means a Trade Adjustment Assistance Center, as more fully described in §315.5.

Threat of Total or Partial Separation means, with respect to any group of workers, one or more events or circumstances clearly demonstrating that a Total or Partial Separation is imminent.

Total Separation means, with respect to any employment in a Firm, the laying off or termination of employment of an employee for lack of work.

§ 315.3 Confidential Business Informa-

EDA will follow the procedures set forth in 15 CFR 4.9 for the submission of Confidential Business Information. Submitters should clearly mark and designate as confidential any Confidential Business Information.

§315.4 Eligible petitioners.

Eligible petitioners for assistance under this part shall be:

- (a) Trade Adjustment Assistance Centers ("TAACs"). A TAAC can be
 - (1) University affiliate;
- (2) State or local government affiliate; or
 - (3) Non-profit organization.
 - (b) Firms; or
- (c) Organizations assisting or representing industries in which a substantial number of Firms or workers have been certified as eligible to apply for Adjustment Assistance under sections 223 or 251 of the Trade Act, including:
 - (1) Existing agencies;
 - (2) Private individuals:
 - (3) Firms:
 - (4) Universities;
 - (5) Institutions;
 - (6) Associations;
 - (7) Unions; or
- (8) Other non-profit industry organizations.

§ 315.5 TAAC scope, selection, evaluation and awards.

(a) *TAAC purpose and scope.* (1) TAACs are available to assist Firms in

obtaining Adjustment Assistance in all fifty (50) U.S. States, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. TAACs provide Adjustment Assistance in accordance with this part either through their own staffs or by arrangements with outside consultants. Information concerning TAACs serving particular areas may be obtained from the TAAC Web site at http://www.taacenters.org or from EDA. See the applicable FFO for the appropriate points of contact and addresses.

- (2) Prior to submitting a petition for Adjustment Assistance to EDA, a Firm should determine the extent to which a TAAC can provide the required Adjustment Assistance. EDA will provide Adjustment Assistance through TAACs whenever EDA determines that such assistance can be provided most effectively in this manner. Requests for Adjustment Assistance will normally be made through TAACs.
- (3) TAACs generally provide Adjustment Assistance to a Firm by providing the following:
- (i) Assistance to a Firm in preparing its petition for certification;
- (ii) Assistance to a Certified Firm in diagnosing its strengths and weaknesses and developing its Adjustment Proposal; and
- (iii) Assistance to a Certified Firm in the implementation of its Adjustment Proposal.
- (b) TAAC selection. (1) EDA invites currently funded TAACs to submit either new or amended applications; provided they have performed in a satisfactory manner and complied with previous and/or current conditions in their Cooperative Agreements with EDA and contingent upon availability of funds. Such TAACs shall submit an application on a form approved by OMB, as well as a proposed budget, narrative scope of work, and such other information as requested by EDA. Acceptance of an application or amended application for a Cooperative Agreement does not assure funding by EDA
- (2) EDA may invite new TAAC proposals through an FFO. If such a proposal is acceptable, EDA will invite an application on a form approved by OMB. An application will require a narrative scope of work, proposed budget